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Issue 340

May 2025

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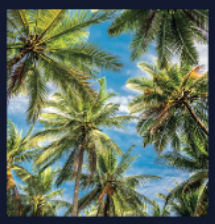

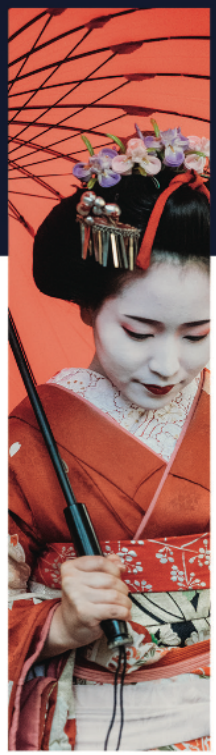

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Welcome to the Ufford PUNCH

From the Editor

Welcome to the May edition of the Ufford PUNCH.

After the gloomy first few months of 2025, early April's weather gave us all a reason to have a spring in our step. Ufford comes alive spectacularly at this time of year, and with it our village events start to crank into life.

Automobile terminology was aplenty among the scores of vintage car lovers that descended for the April leg (August to come) of the Ufford Car Rally. In it's 21st year, the event had one of its best turnouts of recent times, aided by the sunniest of days. This magazine has covered many of the rallies, but this year attempted a change in reporting style, as Lotte d'Hane tracked her father (and co-founder of the event) Foppe throughout his caffeine-fuelled day (p15).

That other great April village institution, the Players production, returned with the thoroughly entertaining *Murder on the Rerun.* The PUNCH would like to thank the mysterious Sheridan Whiteside for stepping into review this year's play, with our regular reviewer Jed Leland oddly unavailable - hopefully not more foul play. Sheridan's review can be found on, unlucky for some, p13.

In this issue the PUNCH commemorates the 80th anniversary of VE Day with articles from two villagers who recall that day - one in Suffolk and the other from across the Atlantic (p6 and 7). We also pay our respects to those villagers who have passed away recently, amongst those Margaret Collier, whose son Mark has penned her obituary (p10).

Elsewhere in this addition we cover: the potential impact of Sizewell C on Ufford (p4), the first UAHG trip of the year (p8) , welcoming two homes-worth of village newcomers (p9 and 11), a farewell to the Players (p12), a quiz section (p16 and 17), one man's fascination with dreams (p19) and all our regular columns.

And finally, please look on the Diary Dates section on page 23 for all of this month's events. If there is one that you are involved in, but is not on that list, it's because we genuinely didn't know it was taking place. Feel free to drop us a line on the submissions email and let us know what we are missing!

Have a marvellous May.

Tony Hill

Front cover - Digital art image by Paula Hill

Have you heard it on the PUNCHLINE?

Get the latest village news first via our digital newsletter 'PUNCHLine'.

If there is anything you want to broadcast, write your message and send it in Monday - Saturday for circulation to all our subscribers as soon as possible.

To subscribe, or broadcast news, email punchline@uffordpunch.org.uk

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Ufford PUNCH June 2025

Deadline for submissions: 16th May 2025

Sizewell C and its impact on Ufford

There are growing concerns across East Suffolk about the impact of current Sizewell C infrastructure works on local communities as well as the wider implications of longer-term schemes such as the Southern Park & Ride being built just north of Wickham Market.

Ufford through its Parish Council is a member of the SZC Southern Transport Forum which meets quarterly and is also involved in specific issues such as road improvements and traffic monitoring. Here are some local facts about the SZC plans.

Wickham Market Park and Ride

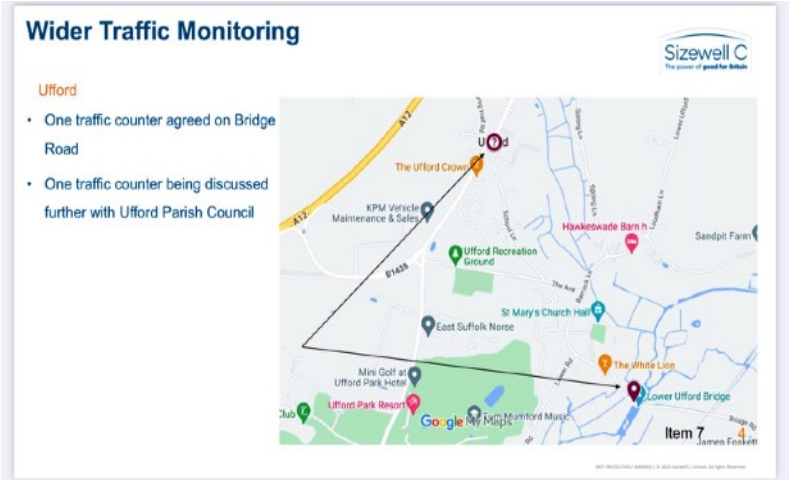
The site is by the side of the A12 slip road going north towards Marlesford and has been undergoing archeological and ecological studies, prior to work starting in earnest this summer. You will have seen that the site has been cleared already and by the end of 2026 it will be ready to take up to 1,500 vehicles, with 24-hour operations.

Improvements to local roads from the west and to the north of Wickham Market are planned. A traffic calming scheme within Wickham Market is being designed; the initial designs are on the Wickham Market Parish Council website. There are concerns about the impact on parking in the village and the possibility of speeding between calming zones. Ufford residents will be alerted when public engagement dates are known.

Traffic Monitoring

As the SZC project progresses we will see more and more traffic using the A12 for access to the site and this will most likely have a knock-on impact on volumes on our local roads. An SZC Traffic Monitoring Group involving local parishes has been set up and over 40 monitoring points agreed with SZC management so far.

In Ufford, the main concerns are about traffic generation onto the B1438 via the High Street and the potential spillover from the Melton/ Eyke/ Bentwaters route via Bridge Road through Ufford to access the A12.



Two monitoring points have now been agreed for Ufford. These will go live this summer and will track vehicle movements for two periods each year until the power station construction has been completed; we have requested that the High Street site becomes a permanent monitoring point.

Melton Level Crossing and Train movements

Work to upgrade the Melton level crossing is essential to allow trains to carry bulk materials and key components to Sizewell C. The work to deliver the upgrade is planned for 2026 and will most likely involve extensive night-time closures and possibly one or two limited weekend closures. The traffic implications will be significant and plans for diversion routes will be known later this year. We all know first-hand what can happen when the Melton crossing is closed off, so your Parish Council will be keeping track of these plans.

Reporting SZC heavy goods vehicles

SZC have regulated routes for HGVs and other large vehicles - mainly the A12 and feeder roads to the Leiston site. So if you see any HGVs with the blue SZC label coming through Ufford or on our local lanes, then do please report these at once to info@sizewellc.co.uk or call 0800 197 6102.

David Findley

UFFORD PUNCH NOTICEBOARD

UFFORD OPEN GARDENS

Once again Ufford village will be hosting 'Ufford Open Gardens' in aid of St. Elizabeth Hospice

The event is being held on Saturday 14th June from 1pm to 5pm

Would you be prepared to open your garden to support this wonderful local charity?

If you are interested please contact:
tricia_cornhill@btinternet.com

EVENING CYCLE 2025

By popular request, Nick's Evening Cycle is back!
This time, he's raising money for MND.

When? Thursday 12th June 2025

Time? 6.30pm start

Where? Start and finish at The Ufford Crown

Route? Fifteen miles, on country lanes via Campsea Ashe, Blaxhall and Tunstall

Who? All cyclists and social supporters are welcome

More details to follow

OOOH AAAH EVENTS - THREE MEN IN A BOAT

Giles Shenton will be at St Mary's Parish Hall with the classic comedy Three Men in a Boat on Saturday 31st May at 7:30pm. Tickets cost £12.50 and can be obtained by emailing andygardn@googlemail.com or from the White Lion pub (cash only).

UFFORD GARDENING CLUB PLANT AND SEED SALE

10am-12pm Saturday 17th May at St Mary's Parish Hall

Come and choose from a lovely selection of free plants in return for donations to the Alzheimer's Society (**cash only**).

Bring any plants you would like to donate to the Parish Hall on the day 9am-9.45am or pop them to Brad Woodgate's driveway - Meadow View, School Lane anytime 12-16th May

Refreshments available. Donations of cakes welcome!

See you there - it'll be fun!

MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNOR VACANCIES

Melton Primary School is seeking to appoint two new governors who are good at listening, asking questions and have time to support the work of the Governing Body.

Governors provide leadership, support and challenge to the Headteacher and senior staff by offering advice on a range of matters. They share the common goal of seeking to make the school the best it can be.

The post is suitable for people who can offer time to attend meetings and to visit the school to support events. Those appointed can expect a commitment of between 20-25 hours across the school year.

If you are interested in applying, please email the school outlining the skills, qualities and experience you offer.

***Or,** for an informal conversation with the Chair of Governors, please email or telephone using the contact details below.*

We look forward to hearing from you.

Contact details:

admin@melton.suffolk.sch.uk

01394 382506

VE Day

In commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day on the 8th May, we are very fortunate to be able to share the recollections of Una Jenkins from May 1945

Many of you will not know Una Jenkins, but at the age of 96 (97 in July!) she may well be the oldest person in our village. Una is an author of two books (one about her childhood pre-war in the Suffolk village of West Row near Mildenhall airbase and the other on the impact of the Second World War on that small village), she loves her garden and is a wealth of information on many subjects. Una moved to High Street, Ufford in 1984 with husband Don, who was a music teacher and taught many local children.

Eighty years ago on 8th May 1945, at the age of sixteen, Una remembers clearly all of her family sitting around the wireless listening to the BBC, waiting for Winston Churchill's address to confirm the end of the Second World War in Europe. Una says 'The praise lavished upon Winston Churchill can never be too great. He inspired the whole nation and unless you lived through the war, you could never know the feeling of hope and inspiration he gave to everyone'.

Photo taken by Cathy Mutton

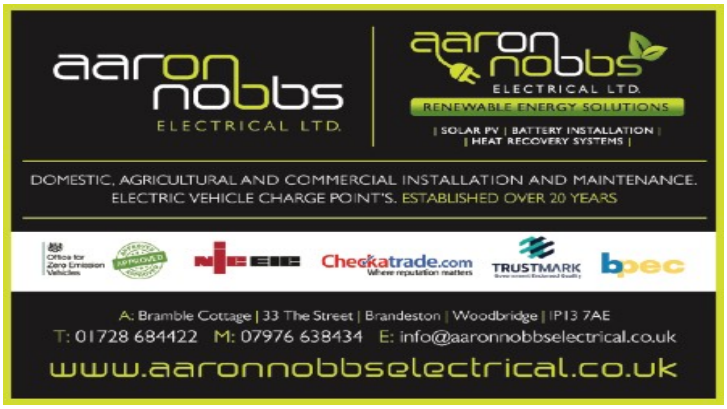
Una finds it difficult to describe the feeling of relief and overwhelming joy felt by everyone in her small village. She recalls that people shook hands and hugged each other, even those they did not know!

She was so excited about the planned celebrations and hunted through her wardrobe to find her favourite blue silk dress, which she wore in the evening; for the day time celebrations she wore her Sunday dress with a pretty pink and green pattern. The whole village attended the celebrations and she met many boys from Canada, New Zealand, Poland and the USA.

The streets were decorated with red, white and blue bunting and flags. The tea party in the village hall had a young lad playing the piano with songs like 'The White Cliffs of Dover' and 'Lili Marlene'. She lived next to the RAF base, so had lots of eligible young men to dance with!

Una also attended an open-air dance on Angel Hill in Bury St Edmunds with her cousin Ivy and her brothers Don and Vic. Una recalls Abbey Gardens and Abbeygate Street being illuminated with a search light 'it was such a treat after all those years of blackouts and darkness'.

Una was in conversation with close friend and neighbour Cathy Mutton.



VE Day

Across the Atlantic in May 1945, the PUNCH's Edward Creswick vividly remembers the effect of World War II on Canada and of the mixed emotions on VE Day

I was born in Toronto in 1937, so my earliest memories are of wartime.

Life in Canada then was much like that in the UK, without the bombing of course. I remember the weekly air raid siren tests at noon. The city-wide blackout practices were fun, with dark window blinds and a local patrol to check the street was dark. Sugar, butter, meat, tea, coffee, alcohol, clothing, gasoline (petrol) and coal were all rationed. Our house had coal-fired central heating. We all had victory gardens to grow vegetables instead of flowers.

The evening news broadcasts were sacrosanct for my parents, but my age group were relatively unaware of the progress of the war. My brother-in-law, an uncle, and two cousins, all Canadians, served overseas in WWII and although two were injured all thankfully survived.

My English mother from near Bury St Edmunds had two sisters in the UK, so I remember hearing about the bombing and the rationing from those letters that got through.

VE Day was both a sombre and a big celebration in Toronto. I remember going to a huge fireworks display, something I had never seen before because of wartime. The photo is not me, but could well have been.

Photo from City of Toronto VE Day Archives

Our flag in Canada was either the red ensign defaced with the Canada badge, or the Union Jack. The now-ubiquitous maple leaf flag was designed and adopted only in 1965, ready for the 1967 Confederation Centennial celebrations and the memorable Montreal Expo 67.

The most lasting effects of growing up in wartime are the lifelong habits one acquired. Conserve, repair, and reuse everything possible. Never throw away food and that last bit of soap is pressed into the next bar.

Those of you under 75 just don't understand how wartime shaped our current habits and beliefs.

Edward Creswick

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Ufford Art History Group Visit to Beccles

The UAHG, now in its sixteenth year, had its first outing for 2025 to the nearby market town of Beccles.

In beautiful spring sunshine our first stop was coffee at the Waveney Hotel situated on the banks of the River Waveney where we were met by our guide for the morning Dr. Barry Darch.

First mentioned in the Doomsday Book, the name Beccles is derived from the old English 'bec-laes' meaning 'pasture on the stream'. Although ravaged by fire in 1586 and by two more in later centuries much of the medieval buildings were destroyed although replaced by some magnificent Georgian structures.

In particular Montagu House the home of Captain Edward Montagu who served in the Napoleonic Wars and Oswald House built for Joseph Harbor a local tanner. Many of the streets have the suffix 'gate' - Ballygate, Northgate, Smallgate and Blythgate from the old Norse for 'street'.

Dr Darch explained that Beccles had been an early river-port and flourishing market town since Anglo-Saxon times, ranking third in Suffolk after Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds in the Middle Ages. Tanning was one of the prime industries along with herrings - Sortgate was where large quantities of fish were landed, sorted and sold in the market square.

The village school was commissioned by local tradesman John Leman who went on to become Lord Mayor of London. In his Will of 1631 he provided funds for a free school to educate 44 local boys between the ages of eight and twelve, with the motto 'Disce art Discede' - 'Learn or Leave'. The school closed in 1914 when the new Sir John Leman High School was built - the old school now houses Beccles Museum.

Our final stop before lunch was to Grade I listed St.Michael's Church built in the perpendicular style between 1350 and 1400 and particularly known for its intrinsically carved south porch and detached bell tower.

This was a fascinating visit and insight into the history of Beccles. If any of our new readers would like to join and/or have information on future visits please contact - jenny.searle@btinternet.com

Alex Bennett

Welcome to the Village

Hello from The Avenue!

We're Sophie, Anthony and our (occasionally grumpy) four-legged friend Bertie, and we've recently made the move to Ufford from Essex. We landed here in September 2024 and are already loving village life—thank you to everyone who's given us such a warm welcome!

A little about us: Anthony has swapped new build sales and consultancy for something a bit greener and more peaceful—he's now working as a gardener at Loudham Hall and is in his second year studying arboriculture. You'll often find him gravel riding through Rendlesham Forest, usually coming back covered in mud and with a very happy face!

Sophie is an accountant and mostly works from home (with Bertie acting as part-time assistant/office pest). She occasionally ventures into London, but otherwise enjoys running and long walks with Bertie in the beautiful countryside we're lucky to have on our doorstep.

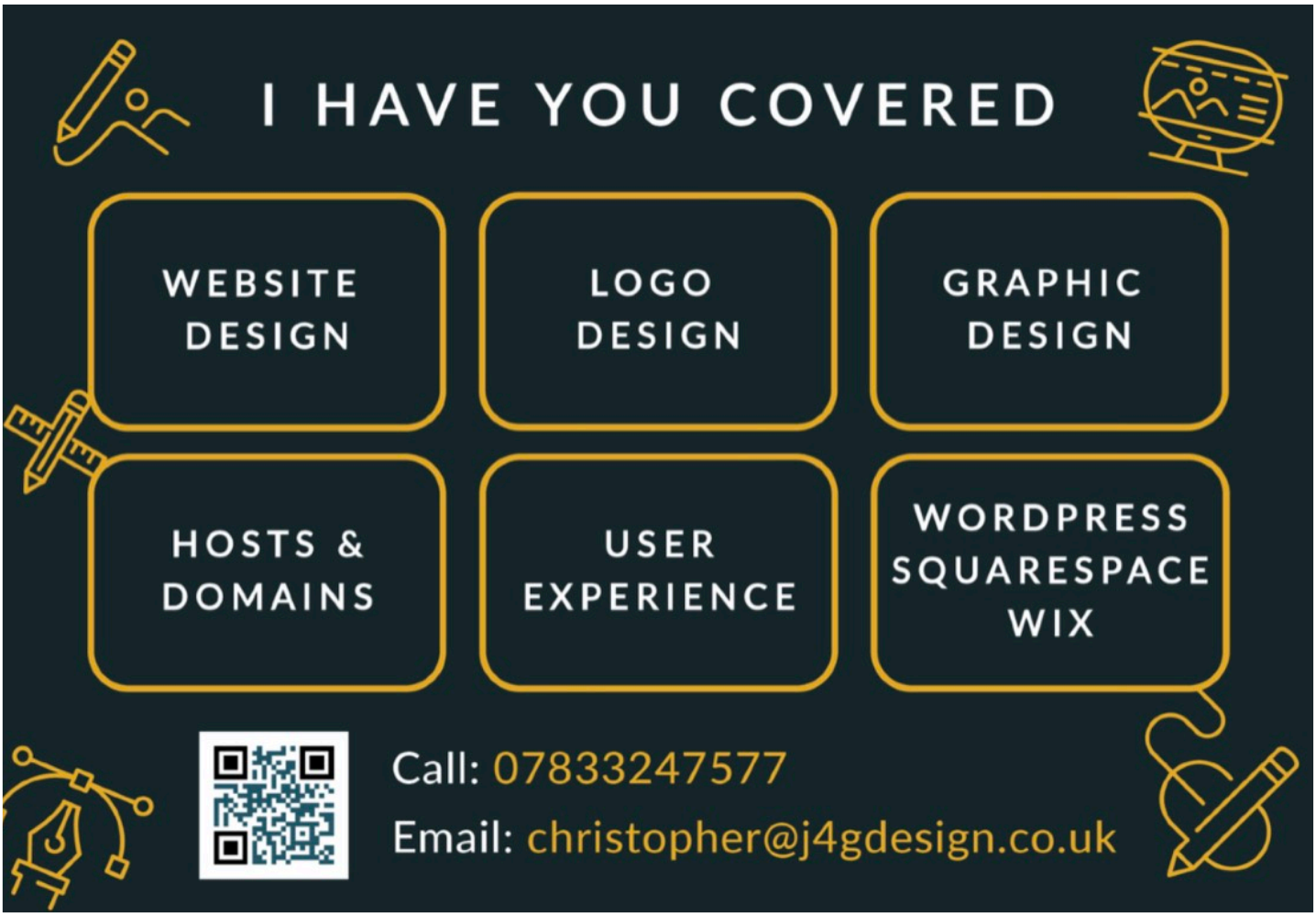
You might spot our van with the Tentbox on the drive—that's our little getaway-mobile! We love a good camping adventure whenever we can sneak one in.

As for Bertie, he's our 4-year-old border terrier. He's full of character, energy… and opinions! Sadly, he was attacked by another dog when he was young, so he's not always at his best around other dogs. We're working with the brilliant Ipswich Dog Trainer to help him overcome this, and we're making progress. We really appreciate your patience if he's ever a bit barky or bossy on a walk!

We're so happy to be part of the Ufford community and are looking forward to getting to know more of you—whether that's on a dog walk, at a village event, or over a cup of tea.

See you around!

Sophie, Anthony & Bertie 🐾



Obituary - Margaret Rose Collier

Margaret Rose Collier, a beloved mother and grandmother, passed away peacefully on 16th March 2025, at the age of 88.

After lovingly caring for her late husband Alan during his brave battle with Alzheimer's, she too became affected by dementia herself. She lived out her final days at a care home in Essex close to her sons and their families.

Born in Romford, Margaret was known for her kindness, strength, and reciprocal love for her family. She leaves behind a legacy of love and joy, and a very deep rooted sense of humour.

While her memory faded due to dementia, her spirit of love and compassion remained. Margaret was a devoted wife to Alan for around 40 years. A previous marriage brought three sons Kim, Clive and Mark, and grandchildren Rachael, Jack, Callum, Monique, Ruby and Marcus.

She will be remembered for her deep love of gardening and bird life. Making Suffolk her home in later life she built great friendships with those that she came into contact with. She will be greatly missed by family, friends and indeed the birds who frequented her garden.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to Alzheimer's Society. A memorial service will be held in the village she grew up in at St Peter's Church, Great Totham on the 6th May at 1:30pm.

https://margaret-rose-collier.muchloved.com/

Mark Crisell

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Welcome to the Village

Hello! We moved to Brindles in Lower Ufford in early February, relocating from West Bridgford in Nottingham.

On discovering Ufford we were pretty sure we'd found the place we wanted to move to. We were charmed by the village, its sense of space, the trees, the great mix of architectural styles, two great pubs, a beautiful church, the intriguing sections of seemingly random ornate brickwork walls ... And then we found out about 'Ufford Place'... fascinating!

We are both fans of the 'mid-century' aesthetic, and Brindles certainly ticked the box for us in that respect and many others.

I (Tom) have worked as a graphic designer for the past 35 years. I also paint and write and release music under the name 'Fountaindale'. Jane still spends time back in Nottingham teaching Interior Architecture at NTU, as well as co-running her own theatre company for adults with learning difficulties/autism.

Our son Billy is a writer and illustrator ('Hupo and the Wonder Thief' - his first book is just out). He will be with us for a few months, but is planning to move to Edinburgh during the year. Our daughter Evie will be coming-and-going as she is studying Digital Media Production at Sheffield Hallam University. She also belongs to our cat 'Blue', who you may recognise by his Geordie accent.

Our first couple of months in Ufford have been great. We've already met and been warmly welcomed by many lovely neighbours, explored the surrounding countryside, supped on 'Nog' and played the open mic at The White Lion...

We are very much looking forward to our first summer here, getting into the garden, getting to know more of our neighbours and enjoying what we can already see is a wonderful village. Cheers!

Tom Partridge & Jane Hart

A Farewell to the Players

Jacqueline Davies had been a part of over fifteen Players' productions and *Murder on the Rerun* was her finale. 'Jakes' sums up what the Players has meant to her and recalls the perils of props when performing live.

One of the many regrets that I have in leaving Ufford is that it will mean stepping down from the Ufford Players after just over twenty years. When I first came to Ufford and saw the size of the Church Hall stage, where the Players perform, I thought to myself 'You have to be kidding!' How wrong I was – that little stage has a Dr Who Tardis-like ability to defy dimensions!

I'm taking with me so many happy memories of performances, including a wry smile remembering the near-disasters, invariably caused by inanimate objects, that go with live performances. One of our most ambitious productions was *Blithe Spirit* for which Sean McMillan constructed an amazing séance table which jumped by means of a nail gun mechanism in the leg operated by a hidden switch. It worked wonderfully, except in one performance when something went wrong and it refused to stop jumping about until Sean unobtrusively ripped the wires out under the table. We don't think the audience noticed, but we had difficulty stifling giggles on stage.

Along with the memories created, I shall remember more than anything the friendships forged over the years and the harmony of the Players – nobody minds if they are a 'lead' one year and a 'third spear carrier' the next – the whole is bigger than an individual.

Blithe Spirit April 2019 - Belinda Laffling, Sean McMillan, Annie Harris, Jacqueline Davies and Ian Davies. Photo: Kevin Young

Thank you, with great affection to all involved with the Players past and present, on stage and behind the scenes, for some great times!

Jakes Davies

THE UFFORD CROWN

13th Anniversary

The Ufford Crown
High Street
Ufford, Suffolk
IP13 6EL

THE UFFORD CROWN

Music in the Marquee is back on selected Saturdays 2pm to 5pm this summer! Come and join us for live music and happy hour on beers and cocktails.

Playing live on 3rd May is talented local singer songwriter Pete Hepworth. More dates to follow.

Please call us on 01394 461030 to reserve a table for drinks and music.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Please call to book a table on 01394 461030 or book online: www.theuffordcrown.com

Dog friendly with treats and water bowls

Murder on the Rerun, Ufford Players, April 2025

Good theatre can be hard to come by in this part of Suffolk but the Ufford Players' annual am-dram extravaganza remains a guaranteed great night out and one of Ufford's most loved village traditions. For two nights only, every April, fans from far and wide crowd into St Mary's Parish Hall, eyes gleaming with anticipation.

For some, all too evidently, that gleam has a lot to do with the excellent-value fish supper (rumours were rife that a plot had been hatched to sell-out the Friday performance with the lure of fish'n'chips-twice-over) included in the ticket price. But for the majority of Ufford Players devotees, the play's the thing; and this year's *Murder on the Rerun* didn't disappoint.

From the moment the curtain went up to reveal – with an appreciative gasp from the audience – a deluxe log cabin set (designed, we learnt from the programme, by the clearly very stylish Angela Linforth) it was evident we were in for an entertaining evening. One that was eerily reminiscent of another recent success, when some of the same cast members raised the roof with a triumphant *Blithe Spirit*.

Fred Carmichael's *Murder on the Rerun* didn't scale Noel Coward's heights of sophistication – and would have benefitted from some judicious pruning – but it was still great fun. Helen Shand put in an epic performance, barely leaving the stage over two long hours, as the ghost of Jane Ackerly, a once-successful screenwriter determined to find out who had murdered her, in the log cabin, three years before.

Barely off the stage either, was Belinda Laffling, putting in a terrific comic turn as trainee angel Kitty, hoping to earn her wings by helping Jane nail the killer. As for the still-living suspects, gathered at the scene of the crime three years on, they were a suitably 'orrible lot. As vain, pompous and scheming as you would expect of a Hollywood nest of vipers. With motive doled out evenly between them.

Sean McMillan was perfectly cast as Ackerly's fading matinee idol husband, who had wasted no time in marrying his ruthlessly ambitious lover Betsy (Jenny McMillan) following his wife's demise. Jacqueline Davies camped it up wonderfully as a Swanson-like washed up screen siren, desperate to relive past glories. Madeleine Wellings rocked the waspish role of a gossip columnist hack. And special mention must be given to Justin Wells' performance, in the role of the progressively inebriated film director George, as a wholly convincing drunk.

But which of them did the deed? In the end it hardly mattered. Thanks to Jackie Wilks's confident direction, Adam Thomas's seamless sound and lighting, and June Parsons' enthusiastic prompting, the evening went off splendidly, rewarded at the close with an enthusiastic ovation by a happy, satisfied audience.

Congratulations to all involved for the massive effort put in. We're looking forward to next year already.

Sheridan Whiteside

Photos by Kevin Young

Ufford Car Rally

Outstanding weather saw a huge crowd attend April's rally.
The booking of the Stardust Big Band and The Spallettes proved to be an inspired move and really added to the atmosphere on the day - Congratulations to all involved.

Photos on pages 14-15 courtesy of Lotte d'Hane, Andy Gardner and Kevin Young

WHITE LION PUB

Lower Street, Ufford

Spring at the White Lion

Quiz Night - Tuesday 13th May Meal 7pm , Quiz 8pm
Kit's Alternative Quiz - Wednesday 21st May 7 pm
Open Mic Night- Thursday 22nd May 7pm
Quiz Night - Tuesday 27th May Meal 7pm, Quiz 8pm

Special Opening Times for May

Open **May Bank Holiday** Monday 5th May and **Spring Bank Holiday** Monday 26th May
12noon to 9:30pm Meals 12noon to 6pm. Otherwise closed all day Mondays
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Open Sunday - 12noon to 9:30pm Meals 12noon to 6pm

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Please check our website for details of our events: www.uffordwhitelion.co.uk

Ufford Car Rally

Lotte d'Hane, 23, has witnessed her father Foppe host numerous Ufford Car Rallies. However, this year the PUNCH asked Lotte to pay just a little more attention as to what makes the event and her father tick. Here is Lotte's diary of a sun-kissed day.

Foppe and a 1935 Talbot Airline in battleship grey

In the 21 years of the Ufford Rally, you may have, for a brief moment, wondered what goes into creating such a calendar highlight for vintage car enthusiasts. Despite being met with the infamous response each time I have asked, 'It's gone on for so long, it practically runs itself on the day', I have channelled my inner Hercule Poirot and have attempted to document what a day looks like for one of the Rally's founding members …

07:30 - After thanking the great British weather for being sunny, voices are interrupted by the coffee machine beginning its first of many stints of the day
07:45 - With a banana in hand, its down to the yard to polish any customer car that is 'on the button'
08:10 - Back up to the house for a second coffee
08:15 - Morning calmness is interrupted by the first of many knocks on the door - for those who knock, the typical response you'll receive is, 'He's somewhere around here or down at the pub … tried the yard?'
08:40 - Next on the agenda is putting up the Ufford Rally signs in and around the Village and this year's helper is the Rolls Royce
09:00 - Despite the guaranteed Austin 7 arriving early, erecting a picnic table and sitting down to sip on a flask of coffee, nerves of an empty field still linger …

… No empty field!

09:05 - After shaking many hands, it's a few quick walks back and forth across the water meadows to bring the remaining cars to the pub, listening to the echoes of brass instruments as they warm up
09:30 - Action time! The hand shaking and parking gesturing begins. It would appear that this makes up the majority of the day, meaning conversations are left at abrupt cliff-hangers to be continued … maybe next year?
12:00 - The field reaches its maximum capacity, yet cars still continue to arrive
12:30 - A warm and relaxed ambiance now replaces the noise and excitement of arrivals. At last, it's time for the lost pint to be enjoyed and for social and technical chat to resume
15:00 - Then, as if my magic (or because the Ipswich football game was on), the field starts to empty as quickly as it filled and the back and forth from the morning is once again repeated
17:00 - A final Wherry is raised with the pub management to mark the day's success
20:00 - Sightly windswept, sunburnt but happily satisfied, the celebratory glass of Ripasso is enjoyed while watching the Ufford Players do their performance
23:30 - You guessed it … the day isn't quite complete without one final effort from the coffee machine and a sit down to watch the sport highlights with the cat.

In summary, to take on the role of running the rally you have to meet three crucial criteria. One, a love and passion for vintage cars that puts you in a pretty good position for a specialist subject on Mastermind. Two, like a true European you must have a desire to drink coffee at all times. And three, a calm disposition which welcomes flashy, modern 'flick-gear' Lotus' in amongst the vintage classy charm of its predecessors! **Lotte d'Hane**

Lotte and friend Katya Bathgate enjoying the sun

White Lion Quiz

Thanks to the organisation of Daniel Metz, the White Lion quiz goes from strength to strength.
Here are a couple of rounds that have been enjoyed recently by attendees (answers on p24) … and we introduce Alex!

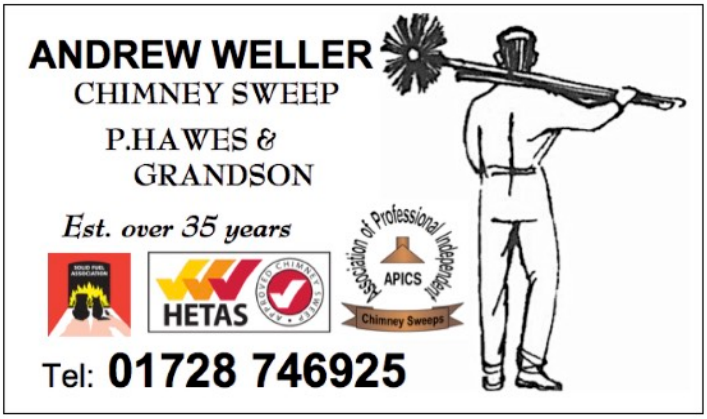
East is East - courtesy of Team Doubt

1. Who played the lead character in that much loved East Anglian TV series *Lovejoy*?
2. In what 1980s cold war thriller did Pierce Brosnan play a Russian spy trying to detonate a nuclear bomb at a US airbase near Ipswich?
3. In the recent film *The Dig*, who played the role of Mrs Edith Pretty, owner of Sutton Hoo?
4. In a 1963 BBC adaptation of one of MR James's ghost stories, actor Michael Hordern was famously chased along a Suffolk beach by a ghost – What was the name of the story?
5. We all know the sitcom *Detectorists* was filmed in and around Suffolk but which actor and musician wrote and sang the series' theme tune?
6. In the Suffolk-set TV series *Magpie Murders*, written by honorary local Anthony Horowitz, who plays the lead character of book editor Susan Ryland?
7. In Danny Boyle's film *Yesterday*, lead character Jack Malik played a concert to a crowd on an East Anglian beach – Name the beach, and name the hotel whose roof he played from?
8. In 2018, Bury St Edmunds was turned into a film set for an adaptation of which of Charles Dickens's novels? – directed by Armando Iannucci.
9. Many of the writer PD James's Inspector Dalgliesh crime novels were set in Suffolk. Who plays Dalgliesh in Channel 5's ongoing series of new adaptations?
10. In what year did Peter Hall make his film adaptation of Ronald Blythe's classic portrait of rural Suffolk, *Akenfield*?

Nicknames - courtesy of On the Run

What are the popular nicknames for the following …

1. Gordon Sumner
2. Exeter City
3. Francois Duvalier
4. William Cody
5. The Subaru Impreza
6. Lester Nelson
7. Edson Arantes do Nascimento
8. The 42 cms short naval cannon (kurze marinekanone)
9. Colin Arthur Ball
10. New York



The bimonthly White Lion quiz took an unexpected Germanic turn in April when a visitor became the star of the evening.

Alexander Kerner, an insurance executive from Munich, only wanted a pie and a pint when he popped into the hostelry.

He was staying at the Ufford Park Hotel after visiting the Sizewell C nuclear power station site, on the Suffolk coast.

'It was empty when I came in,' he said, 'But all of a sudden people kept coming through the door.'

Alex expected to be kicked out when told it was a quiz night, but instead was welcomed by all.

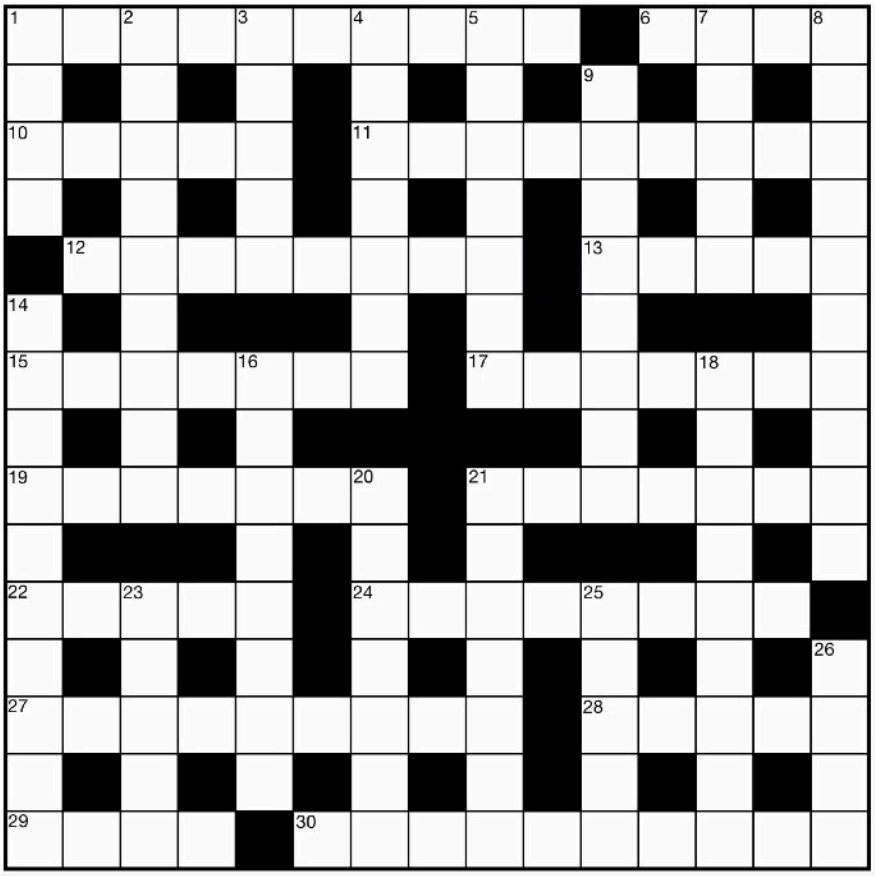
He ended up giving the 'On the Run' trophy to the quiz winners, Team Doubt.

Gut gemacht, Alex.

Andy Gardner (On the Run)

VE Day Crossword

Peter Turner of Church Lane, when not volunteering at a number of local museums, trusts and hospices, thoroughly enjoys compiling crosswords. The PUNCH invited Peter to come up with a crossword commemorating the 80th anniversary of VE Day and here it is. Peter has been kind and started us off gently with one in the 'easy to medium' range of his creations - Good luck! (Answers on page 24)



	Across		Down
1	WWII Supreme Allied Commander. Signatory of the document of surrender. (10)	1	Rank of nobility in England. (4)
6	Signatory of document of surrender for Germany. (4)	2	What citizens had to do during WWII. (7,2)
10	Location of the formal surrender. (5)	3	The nickname/description of a NAZI. (5)
11	British war leader, who famously said of my father, "Who!?" (9)	4	$CH_3C_6H_3(OH)_2$ occurs in lichen. (7)
12	What many British husbands were, after WWII. (3,5)	5	The way many French women felt during WWII. (7)
13	Pejorative Yiddish word for thief or scoundrel. (5)	7	Scarce, but not rationed, bulbous vegetable. (5)
15	An all too often ceremony during WWII. (7)	8	A herbaceous sign of grief/renewal. (4,6)
17	*Where Did All The ….. ..?*' Title of 2007 article by M A Gillespie in Duke University Magazine, examining Hitler. (5,2)	9	Famous Brazilian restaurant, or reddish variety of limestones. (8)
19	Famous survivor of The Blitz on London. (2,5)	14	Those upon the hopes for the future always rests. (10)
21	What many citizens felt on 8 May 1945. (7)	16	Longshoremen. (8)
22	Many properties needed to do this. (5)	18	What one should avoid doing with adhesive. (5,4)
24	How the feeling of euphoria was on VE Day. (8)	20	El …, Italian High Command in WWII. (7)
27	The only way many could follow the war at home. (9)	21	The site of many, many war re-enactments. (4,3)
28	Successor to 11 Across. (5)	23	The quantity describing many commodities post WWII. (5)
29	The common feeling of soldiers' feet. (4)	25	Historic mission in Texas, where Davy Crockett met his fate in 1836. (5)
30	British Field Marshall who accepted German surrender on 4 May 1945. (10)	26	What the Allied forces did to the Axis forces. (4)

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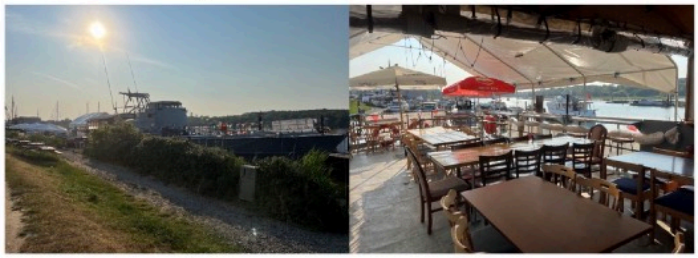

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The Illusory Corner - What's in a Dream?

William Atkinson has always been fascinated by dreams. What do they mean and why do some stick in our memories from childhood? He has put together an anonymous collection from Ufford residents, but would like to hear more. Email him on willatkins151@gmail.com if you have a dream to share.

Do you dream? If you do, do you remember them? Or do they slip away like water, in the moments before waking? Welcome, to the Twilight Zo- … ok sorry I was getting carried away there. But in all honesty I find dreams fascinating, especially those that stick with you after the fact, or that recur weeks to years on end. Why do we dream at all, and what do they mean if anything?

I've had plenty of strange dreams in my time but I wanted to see what the residents of Ufford had to say on the matter. I wanted to focus particularly on the dreams that people had as youngsters, that for whatever reason stuck with them to this day. I've collected a few here for your interest and enjoyment. The dreamers have been anonymised so that they can sleep in peace, but I've given a brief description of what sort of dream, and when it was dreamt:

Man, Mid-50s
Prophetic Dream, occurring once at 7 years old.

I remember having lost my pet tortoise when I was younger, and having no idea where it could have gone. We looked and looked around the house and garden, but to no avail. The following night, I had a dream where I saw my tortoise in a certain spot of the garden . The next morning I went to the spot, and lo and behold there he was. I had dreamt of exactly where I would find him!

Man, Mid 20s
Recurring dream once every 2-3 months, from age 13 until 15.

I am sitting in French class trying to study, and the teacher is asking everyone questions about the work. She turns to me and asks 'excuse me young man, where are your clothes?' I look down and realise that I am completely naked. I try and cover myself, but an invisible force pins me into a starfish shape and lifts me from my chair. It takes me outside into the school grounds, where it keeps me suspended at roughly three meters in the air. A crowd of students start forming, and I am slowly paraded through the halls and paths of the school, all the while being pointed and laughed at by hundreds of my peers. That was embarrassing.

Woman, Mid-20s.
Recurring dream 1-2 times a year, from earliest memory until present day.

I'm not sure when it first started, it feels like it has always been this way, but every now and then when I dream I find myself in this house. Even though it always turns out to be a dream I seem to never be able to figure that out when I'm there. In these dreams there is always the knowledge that this house is my home, and usually it comes with the feeling that I have always lived there, yet I don't know my way around it. It's absolutely enormous and its layout is abstract and nonsensical. Its rooms always have at least two doors, the one you entered through, and another one opposite it leading to the next room. There are no hallways or corridors, each room seems to have a specific function. There are endless rows of bedrooms, kitchens, dining rooms, pantries, studies, even gigantic changing rooms (like ones would find in a gymnasium), auditoriums with hundreds of seats, industrial grade kitchens and ancient looking libraries. I once entered a room that contained nothing but rocking chairs along all of the walls, all facing towards the back of the next chair. Sometimes rooms seem to blend into one; what seems to be a bedroom may also contain a bathtub in one corner, or what appears at first to be a bathroom has a stovetop and oven instead of a sink, its cupboards full of spices. Every time I open a door to leave a room I don't know what to expect on the other side. Dreams that happen in this house tend to be uncomfortable, bearing this familiar feeling of trying to get away from something, but also of looking for something, even though now I'm not sure what I could be looking for. There are no windows. I have never found my way out. **WA**

Garden Notes From The Almshouse

We welcome back Ray Whitehand with his quarterly contribution, focussing this time on Spring past and present

Spring is that magical time of the year, when the new season literally springs into life. With bulbs aplenty providing colour and the trees and shrubs, woken from their winter's sleep, producing their fresh green shoots.

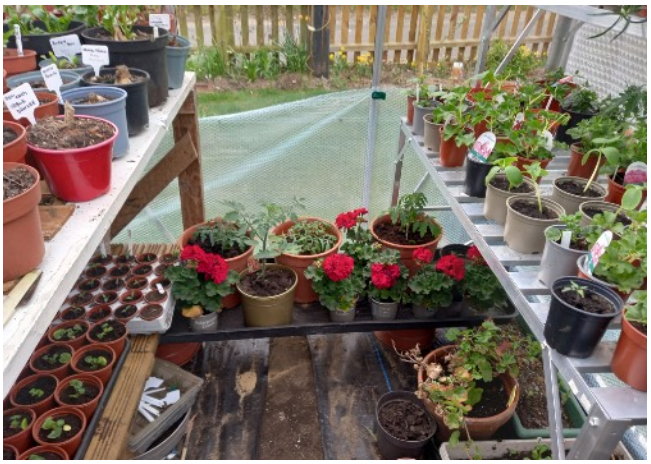
Spring in the tree nursery at Notcutts was a time of great anticipation. The preparatory work done on the rootstocks last summer now required attention. Every plant would get its own six to eight foot cane. Then as the fresh growth appeared, the cane was tied to the rootstock ready for the new growth to be trained to. While some varieties like *Prunus Padus* (Bird Cherry) would get to the top in a season, others, like the oaks would take up to four years to reach the same height. Once at the chosen height the leader would be pruned to produce the head of the tree.

One of the easiest forms of tree and shrub reproduction was carried out on the stool beds. A stool is simply a multi-stemmed plant on its own roots. Many plants readily reproduce themselves simply by contact with Mother Earth, you will have noticed low growing shrubs will often root themselves into the soil.

Forcing dahlia tubers, nearly ready to take young cuttings

Simply bend the healthiest stems over and peg into a shallow trench. This can then be infilled with sharp sand. Keep the area weed free for the next twelve months then cut each pegged branch off at its base, lightly fork up the soil around the rooted stems and you should have new stock to either replace old plants or share with friends and neighbours.

My private garden work at Hilborough Hall, near Thetford, included supplying flower displays for the house when the owner was entertaining. Springtime bulbs were very popular, but as many of you have found out, blind bulbs such as tulips or hyacinths make a perfect display impossible. Fear not, for my mentors Tom and Jimmy taught me a perfect solution. Plant up ample bulbs into two large wooden boxes, then force them on until you can see the emerging bloom, carefully lift and replant the blooming bulbs into ornamental troughs ready to be taken into the house. A few strategically placed twigs might be needed to support taller varieties and a daily spray with tepid water would help preserve the bloom.



The new greenhouse in full production!

Disaster struck this winter in the Almshouse garden! One of the few frosts we had this winter wiped out all my young geranium stock, plus a lot of my overwintering dahlia tubers which I had lifted and stored ready to start into growth early in the year. While the geranium damage was instantly visible, the dahlia damage only became obvious in early spring when a good two thirds of them started to rot. This meant a visit to the local garden centre to carefully select new stock. They are now potted up in my new greenhouse hopefully about to produce a batch of cutting material which will provide colour well into autumn, until those first frosts knock them down.

This year I'm going to grow most of my herbs in pots. That way they can be kept near the back door for easy access. Also this prevents plants like mint and thyme encroaching on other plants. Use a John Innes No 2 to prevent them drying out too quickly.

A number of passersby have commented on the state of the lawn at the Almshouse. My recipe is easy. A relatively inexpensive way to feed and weed an established lawn is by using a broad leaf weedkiller (S.B.K.) at half strength, followed by an application of a general purpose fertiliser such as Growmore, again used at half strength so as not to burn the grass.

And finally the fruit cage is now planted up with winter greens and strawberries to provide some produce while the new raspberry canes and black and red currant bushes get established. Hopefully the fruit cage will protect against the all consuming local pigeon fraternity!

Ray Whitehand

Nature Notes by Chris Reading (christopher.reading@icloud.com)

Following on from the wren, I'm going to focus on another little brown job this month, the treecreeper.

Although common, their quiet unobtrusive manner means they often go undetected. They fly under the radar; not literally, obviously. Their brown, white and gold plumage provides perfect camouflage for their natural habitat: mature trees. The clue is in their name. They creep up (rarely down) in search of insects in the nooks and crannies of tree bark. They begin their search low down and work their way upwards, before fluttering back down to the base of a nearby tree. That's when you're most likely to spot one.

Treecreepers have strong legs and feet with long, deeply curved claws, stiffened tail feathers – used for support – and a fine curved-down bill. It has been noted that the bill and claw length of individuals varies significantly between the seasons. This is thought to maximise foraging efficiency. They are found throughout the UK and are green listed for conservation.

Nature Knowledge: Thanks to those who responded to my request for information on hedgehog sightings in the village. It seems that our prickly friends were common in Ufford in past years but are quite rare now. This accords with the UK trend of a steep decline in their population over the past 10 to 15 years, particularly in rural areas.

While driving to Framlingham recently, I was delighted to see a weasel scamper across the road in front of me. They belong to a group of animals called mustelids, which means they have a long body and short legs and are related to otters and stoats. Their young are called kits and they can have two litters a year, with three to six per litter. They are the UK's smallest carnivore and like to dine on voles, mice and small birds – possibly followed by a fine claret (I made that bit up).

Photo: Courtesy of John Richardson

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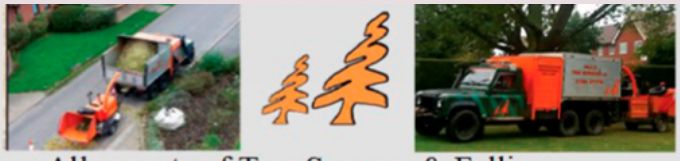

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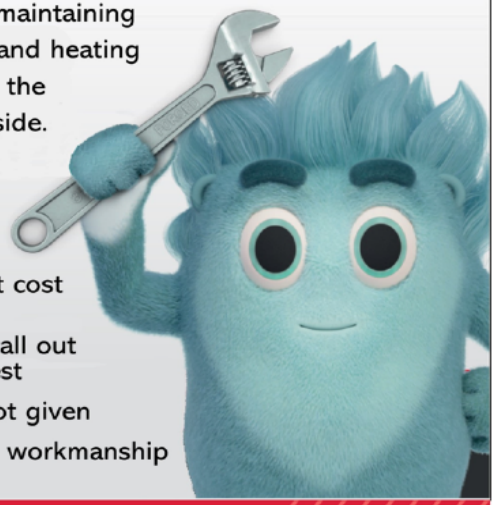

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UFFORD DIARY DATES FOR MAY

EVENTS

3rd May (Sat)	Ufford Crown - Music in the Marquee 2.00 pm - 5.00pm	
8th May (Thu)	VE Day - 80th Anniversary	
8th May (Thu)	UAHG - Visit to Huntingfield Church and Lunch	
11th May (Sun)	The Goldcrest Ensemble - St. Mary's Church at 4.00pm	
12th & 19th May (Mon)	Friends of Parklands Wood - Working Party 9.00am	UCH
13th & 27th May (Tue)	White Lion Quiz Night - Food from 7.00pm, Quiz at 8.00pm	
14th May (Wed)	Ufford Coffee Morning 10.00am - 12.00 noon	UCH
17th May (Sat)	Ufford Gardening Club Plant & Seed Sale 10.00am - 12.00 noon	SMPH
20th May (Tue)	Ufford Parish Council - Meeting 7.00pm	SMPH
21st May (Wed)	Kit's Alternative Quiz at the White Lion 7.00pm	
22nd May (Thu)	White Lion Open Mic Night 7.00pm	
24th May (Sat)	The Garfunkels 7.00pm	SMPH
31st May (Sat)	Oooh Aaah Events - Three Men in a Boat, 7.30pm	SMPH

CLASSES AND CLUBS

Tai Chi Classes	Mondays at 2.15pm	UCH
Tennis Club	Mondays and Fridays from 5.00pm	UCH
Boules	Tuesdays at 2.00pm	UCH
Crocodile Rock	Tuesdays 9.45am - 10.45am and 11.15am - 12.00 noon	UCH
Ufford Bell Ringers	Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.00pm	
Happy Babies	Thursdays 9.30am -10.30am and 11.00am - 12.00 noon	UCH

BRIDGE CLUBS

Ufford Friendly Bridge Club
Mondays 6.30pm **UCH**

U2 Bridge Club
Wednesday 7th and 21st May - 1.45pm **UCH**

WHERE?

SMPH **St Mary's Parish Hall**

UCH **Ufford Community Hall**

The PUNCH Directory

Schedule of events and classes are on the diary dates above

Boules (by tennis court - UCH)
Di Fulcher 01394 460551

Bridge Classes
Mike Fisher
www.mikefisherbridge.com

Carpet Bowls
Di Fulcher 01394 460551

Community Hall
bookings.uch@gmail.com

Crocodile Rock
crocodilerock.music@gmail.com

Cycle Club
Stephen Thurlow 01394 460770

Deben Probus Club
John Hickling 01728 746322
johnhickling@uwclub.net

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Tennis Club
Chris Cage 01394 461082

U2 Bridge Club
Adrian Smith 01394 461179

Ufford Art History Group
Jenny Searle 01394 460317

Ufford Arts Festival
Jeremy Eyres 07739 330398

Ufford Basketball Club
Daniel Metz
uffordbasketball@gmail.com

Ufford Bell Ringers
Kate Eagle 07765 252515
kate.eagle1@gmail.com

Ufford Friendly Bridge Club
Lyn Taylor 01394 460253

Ufford Gardening Club
Sheila Creswick 01394 547658
sheila@creswick.uk
www.uffordgardeningclub.org.uk

Ufford Players Theatre
Jackie Wilks 01423 333167

Ufford Tai-Chi
Ray Norris 01394 383076
www.suffolktaichiacademy.uk

Ufford PUNCH
Nicky Scott 01394 460186
secretary@uffordpunch.org.uk

Repair work at St Mary's

Our own St Mary of the Assumption church is currently in the midst of major repair work that will guarantee its future. Scaffolding has been erected around the 15th century masterpiece and work should be finished in six weeks - around the time you are reading this.

Photo: Andy Gardner

The contractors F.A. Valiant, based in Bury St Edmunds, are experts in listed buildings and have a number of important projects to undertake. These include replacing gutters and downpipes, which are cast iron, and putting in an additional downpipe on the building's north side.

There are also cracks in the vestry due to subsidence which need to be mended and, after Easter, there will be some internal decoration. It is all basic maintenance which was identified as needing doing in the last quinquennial review in 2021.

Karen Eyres, church warden, said, 'The cost of the repairs is covered by the church's fabric fund. The money comes from the Ufford Charities started around 1638 by bequests from wealthy benefactors including Sir Thomas Mills. Half the income goes to the town for work such as the Almshouses and half to the church to be used for the fabric repairs. We have not done work since the church tower was repointed in 2011 and the fabric fund has mounted up.'

Karen continued, 'It just shows that a church needs friends and at St. Mary's we are starting a Friends of Ufford St. Mary's group to encourage better use of the church for the community and to do some fundraising for charity - like the Goldcrest concert on 11th May (advertised last month) and maybe for the conservation of the font cover in the near future.' **Andy Gardner**

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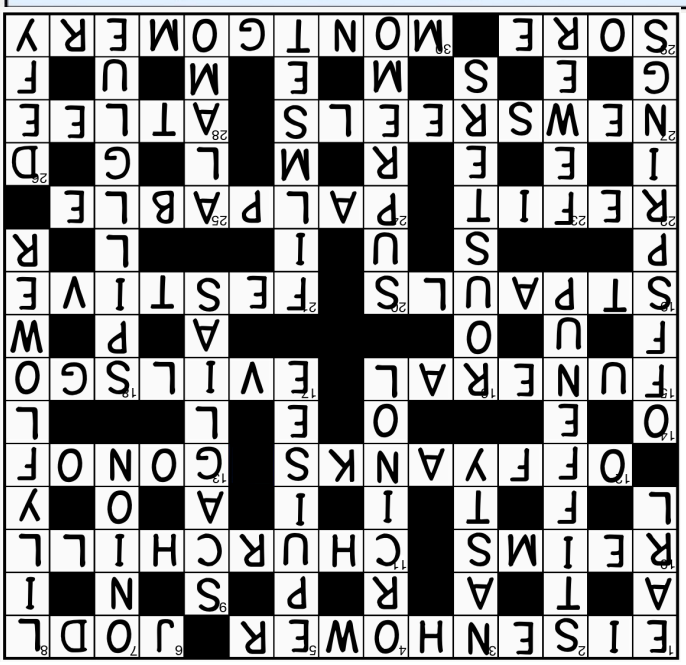
White Lion Quiz Answers

Team Doubt

1. Ian McShane
2. The Fourth Protocol
3. Carey Mulligan
4. Oh, Whistle and I'll Come to you, My Lad
5. Johnny Flynn
6. Lesley Manville
7. Gorleston Beach, near Great Yarmouth - The Pier Hotel.
8. David Copperfield
9. Bertie Carvel
10. 1974 (released 1975)

On The Run

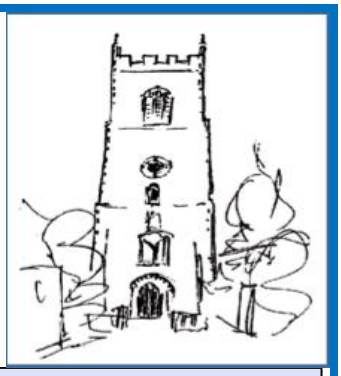
1. Sting
2. The Greecians
3. Papa Doc
4. Buffalo Bill
5. Scooby
6. Baby Face (Nelson)
7. Pele
8. Big Bertha
9. Trigger
10. The Big Apple



ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION, UFFORD

(United Benefice with St. Andrew's Church, Melton)

Rector of Melton & Ufford: Rev. Paul Hambling
Church Office: St. Andrew's Church, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1PX T: 01394 387491
Church Wardens of Ufford: Karen Eyres T: 01394 460455
David Perfect T: 01394 460363



Just like Christmas, Easter doesn't end abruptly at midnight on Easter Day but lasts for 50 days as we follow Jesus' post resurrection ministry. During this time, the bible teaches that the risen Lord appears to his disciples greeting them in peace and in love.

Peace is something that can seem to be absent in our world and love is something which, though beautiful, again seems absent in certain circumstances. My Father used to say to me and my brother and sister, ' If you haven't got anything nice to say, don't say anything at all'. Peace and love should be easy! But throughout history we have seen how these have been distorted.

This May marks the 80th anniversary of VE Day and in January the 80th anniversary of Holocaust Day and of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The terrible atrocities against Jewish people and all those who suffered in concentration camps should never be allowed to happen again. Equally we should never forget that it happened! There have been many stories of those who were confined in the camps. All of them tell of the awful suffering and horrors experienced but there have also been stories of never losing hope in the face of suffering.

There is nothing I can say to even begin to try to help us fully understand why such atrocities happen. What I do know is that, in our uncertain world, one thing is always certain and that is God loves us all unconditionally. In Jesus Christ we are all one and, by the gift and the strength of the Holy Spirit, love grows and each of us has that gift in us. Love knows no bounds, love is for all people, regardless of religion, gender, sexuality, ability, culture, financial status, the list goes on.

My dear friends, as we continue our Easter journey, let us be beacons of love, peace and hope.

With blessings
Fr.Paul

Worship at Ufford & Melton

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MAY

Sun 4th Easter 3
08.00 am Holy Communion BCP at Melton
10.00 am Parish Eucharist at Ufford
10.00 am Morning Worship at Melton

Sun 11th Easter 4
08.00 am Holy Communion BCP at Ufford
10.00 am Eucharist at Melton with APCM
4pm Concert- Goldcrest Ensemble at Ufford
Tickets in aid of Alzheimer's Research UK:
k.eyres@btopenworld.com 07885377600

Sun 18th Easter 5
08.00 am Holy Communion BCP at Melton
10.00 am Parish Eucharist at Ufford with APCM (annual Meeting)
10.00 am Morning Worship at Melton

Sun 25th Easter 6
08.00 am Holy Communion BCP at Ufford
10.00 am Remembrance Service for V E Day with British Legion at Melton

LIVE CHURCH CALENDAR
www.uffordchurch.org

Food Bank donations welcome to the 'Little Pantry 'at St Andrew's Church, Melton with a collection Box in Ufford Church porch.

Thank you. **Jenny Searle**

For Goldcrest Ensemble Concert in the church 11th May at 4pm

contact Karen Eyres 07885377600

ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK FOR A CURE

Online prayer resources:

https://pray-as-you-go.org/home/
https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer

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13. SWAN
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D. TADPOLE
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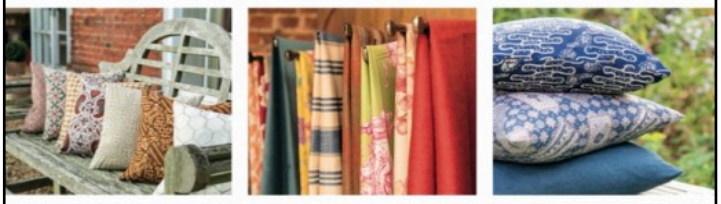

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